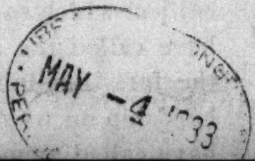


Equal Rights

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SATURDAY
MAY 6, 1933



Enid de Lima

Chancellor of the Nicaraguan Legation in Washington, D. C., who was one of the guests of honor at the annual luncheon of the Maryland Branch of the National Woman's Party, held on May 2 in Baltimore, Maryland. Sra. de Lima is an artist by profession and is particularly interested in illumination and lettering. She has been Chancellor of the Nicaraguan Legation for three years and has won for herself a distinguished position in the world of affairs.

Equal Rights



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Subscribing Members	\$3.00
Founders	\$100.00
Life Members	\$1,000.00
Endowers	\$5,000.00
Sustainers	\$5,000.00

OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 1]
[House Joint Resolution Number 1]

Introduced in the Senate March 10, 1933,
by SENATOR JOHN G. TOWNSEND, Delaware.

Introduced in the House March 9, 1933,
by REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS LUDLOW, Indiana.

Massachusetts Tries to Plan for Women

FOR some time Massachusetts has been struggling to find a way out of its business difficulties, discovering that these are due in a large measure to its no-night work and hour legislation for women in industry.

Two alternatives have been suggested, a moratorium on this labor legislation or a campaign to force other States to adopt similar laws. Such a wail arose from men's labor organizations and welfare groups when Governor Ely first proposed a moratorium last fall that he has kept very quiet about it ever since and instead has been extolling Massachusetts' advanced legislation and urging other States to adopt it.

But as usual the opinions of the working women of Massachusetts on a subject which so vitally concerns them have not been asked for. When women have called the attention of Governor Ely and the textile manufacturers to the fact that labor legislation which classes women with children imposes a hardship on women, they have refused to consider the matter seriously. They have called women visionary who have demanded that labor legislation must from now on apply equally to men and women.

Governor Ely's first step to save Massachusetts' industry and placate men labor leaders and welfare workers was to call together the Labor Commissioners of thirteen Eastern industrial States, welfare workers, and college professors, interested in social problems, to consider the question. Working women were not consulted. If industry could be saved behind a smoke screen of women and children, so much the better. This conference recommended to the Governors and Legislatures of the thirteen States minimum wage and uniform hour legislation for women and children.

A LITTLE later a conference of manufacturers and labor men was called to discuss what could be done to save Massachusetts' industry and to saddle the women of other States with special labor legislation that would protect them out of their jobs. Only, of course, the manufacturers and labor men did not state it so bluntly. They assumed they were planning something for the good of womankind and the nation. They were happy about it because they felt like benefactors. Were they not creating more jobs for men! Were they not once more setting women up on pedestals, protecting them from paid work outside of the home! It mattered little whether the women were hungry or not, as long as they were set up on pedestals.

Governor Ely's latest move has been to present a labor plan to President Roosevelt in which is this startling sentiment: "This employment of women and minors at night in the industrial plants, certainly between the hours of 10 P. M. and 6 A. M., should be permanently abolished in the United States."

It is incredible that men can be so blind that they can still present these so-called Utopian plans for women and actually believe they are doing women a service. Does it not ever occur to Governor Ely and his colleagues that if night work for women in industry were abolished throughout the United States thousands of women would be walking the streets, hungry, looking for jobs? The low-paid occupations of domestic service, laundry work, and scrubbing are already overcrowded. These women and their dependents will starve unless the Government, already overburdened, cares for them.

WOMEN do not ask for such illusory protection. All they ask is an equal opportunity to earn their living. Men have always begrudged them the protection of equal pay for equal work. Possibly because there is nothing sentimental about that. Special labor legislation has made men and certain women feel benevolent. Women voters, however, are through with that sort of thing. They demand a fair deal—an opportunity to contract for their labor on the same terms as men. They demand that labor legislation deal equally with men and women. Women of the other States of the Union do not propose to be economically enslaved to save the tottering industries of Massachusetts.

Protest meetings are being called by the women, in the various States, who would be deprived of their means to a livelihood if President Roosevelt's and Governor Ely's recommendations were to be transformed into law. This is because labor women have at last learned what "protective legislation" really signifies.

As self-respecting human beings women prefer to keep their jobs, such as they are, rather than to be legislated to the bread line under a misnomer.

The Present Status of H. R. 3673

THE Equal Rights nationality bill (H. R. 3673) giving to mothers the same rights in respect to the citizenship of their children as fathers possess and removing various other discriminations against women in the field of nationality, was brought up in the Immigration Committee of the House of Representatives on Tuesday, April 25. The committee voted, by a vote of 11 to 4, in favor of the following resolution:

"That a resolution be adopted by the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization and sent to the President of the United States suggesting that the President appoint a joint committee, upon which the Department of Labor and the Department of State and the Department of Justice be represented, for the purpose of having such joint committee make a thorough study of our nationality laws and naturalization laws and, at the beginning of the session of Congress to convene on January 3, 1934, submit to Congress, by bill or otherwise, such recommendations as the joint committee may deem advantageous to effect fair and equitable adjustments of any inequalities in existing law regarding matters of nationality and naturalization."

This resolution had been presented to the committee by representatives of the State Department at the meeting of the committee on April 17. On this occasion Mr. Wilbur J. Carr, Assistant Secretary of State, appeared before the committee and vigorously urged the adoption of the above resolution.

No vote was taken by the committee

with regard to the nationality bill itself and this bill is still before the committee, awaiting action.

One more organization of women—the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom—has now joined the large and representative group of women's organizations supporting the bill. The Women's International League has written to the House Judiciary Committee as follows:

Washington, D. C.,
April 15, 1933.

"Hon. Samuel Dickstein,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. DICKSTEIN:

May I ask if you will include in the record of the hearing on H. R. 3673 the endorsement by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, United States Section, of the principle of equality in nationality of married women?

Our League, which is an international organization, has gone on record in favor of nationality rights for women in every respect equal with those of men, and has actively taken part in work for this principle. This means that our American Section of the League strongly favors the right of a child to get its American nationality through its mother, and that whatever special provisions are made for the naturalization of a wife should also be made for the naturalization of a husband.

The Women's International League is an organization with sections in 26 countries. Its statement of aims adopted in 1915 is as follows::

"The object of this organization shall be to promote that peace between nations, races and classes,

which is based on justice and goodwill, to outlaw war, to substitute law for war, and to co-operate with women of all countries in carrying out the policies formulated at International Congresses of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom."

The League has since actively supported this principle and worked for its realization in its various sections.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) DOROTHY DETZER,
Executive Secretary.

The members of the House Immigration Committee, before which the nationality resolution is pending, are:

Democrats—Samuel Dickstein (chairman) of New York, John H. Kerr of North Carolina, Lamar Jeffers of Alabama, Mell G. Underwood of Ohio, Vincent L. Palmisano of Maryland, Eugene B. Crowe of Indiana, Martin Dies of Texas, William M. Colmer of Mississippi, Carl M. Weideman of Michigan, A. Willis Robertson of Virginia, E. M. Owen of Georgia, William T. Schulte of Indiana, James J. Lanzetta of New York, Charles Kramer of California.

Republicans—J. W. Taylor of Tennessee, Charles D. Millard of New York, Benjamin Focht of Pennsylvania, W. R. Treager of California, W. L. Higgins of Connecticut, Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois.

Letters should be sent to each member of the committee asking for an immediate and favorable report on the Equal Nationality bill—H. R. 3673.

May Conference Promises Unusual Interest

EXCELLENT speakers, stimulating topics for discussion, and a large attendance already guaranteed, give assurance that the Conference of Woman's Party Workers to be held on May 27-28 in Washington, D. C., will be an occasion of unusual interest. Over one hundred members of the Woman's Party from various States have already indicated their intention of attending the conference and the incoming mail in the box of the Organization Committee becomes daily heavier.

"I would not miss this opportunity for anything in the world," writes one member from Pennsylvania. "It seems to me the psychological moment for women to get together and lay their plans."

"Count me in on the conference," writes another member, from New York, "There never was a time before in the history of the world when it was so necessary to get concerted action on the part of women. Unless we take a stand we shall be blotted out and the principal stand we need to take is a stand together!"

The call to the conference and the pre-

liminary program were sent out to the chairmen of the State branches of the Woman's Party only a short time ago and the response has been extraordinary. From some States, however, the response has been very much greater than from others indicating, perhaps, a neglected obligation on the part of some State chairmen. It is the special duty of all State chairmen to communicate the invitation to attend the conference directly to their members. The Organization Committee has sent out a few letters in addition to those addressed to the State chairmen, but it has neither the lists nor the postage necessary to reach the great majority of the members. So the State chairmen and the chairmen of the various councils are requested herewith to get to work without delay.

The good news has just come in that there will be a hearing on the Equal Rights Amendment, House Joint Resolution Number 1, on Saturday morning May 27, immediately preceding the first session of the conference. Florence Bay-

ard Hilles, chairman of the National Woman's Party made the announcement in the following letter which she recently sent out:

DEAR STATE CHAIRMAN:

The Equal Rights Amendment is to have a hearing before the subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate on Saturday morning, May 27. The following Senators are members of this committee:

Sam Bratton, Chairman, of New Mexico (Democrat)

Hugo L. Black of Alabama (Democrat)

Patrick McCarrenn of Nevada (Democrat)

Daniel O. Hastings of Delaware (Republican)

Warren R. Austin of Vermont (Republican)

It is most important that letters be sent them from all our States—yours included. Will you please have as many letters sent as possible asking their favorable consideration and report of H. J. Resolution 1?

This year has forced upon us the absolute necessity for the Equal Rights

Amendment, if we are to combat future as well as present legal discriminations against women.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) FLORENCE BAYARD HILLES,
National Chairman.

Mrs. Hilles is making the arrangements for the hearing and will herself speak at the hearing.

The Equal Rights Amendment, giving equality to men and women alike in the United States, was introduced on the opening day of the 73d Congress, March 9, by Senator Townsend of Delaware in the Senate and Honorable Louis Ludlow of Indiana in the House. The amendment reads as follows:

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

The next task is to have the bill reported out of committee. A hearing is the first step in that direction. If you cannot come yourself, telephone, telegraph or write the members of the subcommittee. If one of the subcommittee members comes from your State, be so much the more emphatic in your statement that this amendment must be passed. But the main thing is to tell them and keep telling them that the women of the country are behind this measure and demand their support.

The most emphatic way to communicate your wishes to the subcommittee is for you to come on for the conference and attend the hearing in person. Come if possible by Friday night, May 26, so that you will be on hand in plenty of time for

the hearing, which will be held early in the morning.

The Preliminary Program follows:

CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY WORKERS

May 27-28, 1933

Alva Belmont House and the Dodge Hotel,
Washington, D. C.

Saturday, May 27

- 10.30 A. M. Registration of delegates.
- 11.00 A. M. Business session, Edith Houghton Hooker, chairman National Organization Committee, presiding. Address of Welcome by Florence Bayard Hilles, national chairman. General topics: "Organization Methods" and "Revision of Constitution and By-Laws." Speakers, chairmen of State Branches and National Councils.
- 12.30 P. M. Luncheon, Dodge Hotel. Amelia H. Walker of Baltimore, Md., toastmistress.
- 2.00 P. M. Business session, Edwina Austin Avery, chairman Government Workers' Council, presiding. General topic: "The Congressional Program of the Woman's Party."
- 4.00 P. M. Sight-seeing tour for out-of-town delegates, District of Columbia Branch, hostess organization.
- 7.00 P. M. Conference dinner in the Garden House of the Dodge Hotel.

Sunday, May 28

In order to provide an opportunity for delegates to attend morning services in the beautiful churches of Washington,

there will be no regular business session on Sunday morning. Instead, there will be a series of round-tables, on the following topics, held in the Garden House of the Dodge Hotel.

- 10.30 A. M. "Shall the Name of the Woman's Party be Changed?" "The Organization Plan." "Are State Campaigns Worth While?"
- 12.30 P. M. Luncheon, Rebekah Greathouse, toastmistress.
- 2.00 P. M. Business session, Ida I. Kloze presiding. General topics: "How to Organize Industrial Women" and "Protective Legislation."
- 3.30 P. M. Report of Resolutions Committee.
- 4.00 to 6.00 P. M. Reception at Alva Belmont House, District of Columbia Branch, hostess organization.

All sessions of the conference will be held in the Garden House of the Dodge Hotel, except the reception Sunday afternoon, which will be held at Alva Belmont House.

Communications regarding the conference should be addressed to Miss Emilie A. Doetsch, general chairman, 14 Merry-mount Road, Baltimore, Md.

Reservations for the luncheons, at 75 cents a cover, should be made with Mrs. Rebekah Greathouse, 5329 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., telephone Georgia 7527.

Reservations for the dinner, at \$1.50 a cover, should be made with Mrs. Grace Cochran, 2449 Tanlaw Road, N.W., Washington, D. C., telephone Emerson 6513.

Reservation for both the luncheons and the dinner should be made by Wednesday, May 25.

Please communicate directly with the Dodge Hotel for reservation of rooms.

Minimum Wage Legislation for Women

AROUSSED by the recent recommendation of minimum wage legislation for women addressed by President Roosevelt to the governors of 13 industrial States, Jane Norman Smith, chairman of the Woman's Party Committee on Equal Opportunities for women in Business and the Professions, has sent to each of the governors in questions a compilation showing the danger to women of this type of legislation. Mrs. Smith gives a number of instances of the disastrous effects of minimum wage laws for women in North Dakota, Oregon and Massachusetts—three States now having minimum wage legislation applying to women but not to men.

In her compilation Mrs. Smith quotes the 1932 Report of the Minimum Wage Department of the North Dakota Workmen's Compensation Bureau. This report says:

"Since the beginning of the current depression and continuing through to the present time there has been considerable agitation, particularly from employers of the public housekeeping and mercantile occupations, for reduced minimum wage

schedules, many employers claiming that if forced to comply with the provisions of the minimum wage law they would necessarily be put out of business. Others replied to communications from this office that rather than pay the required minimum *they would discontinue employing women workers entirely and place male help in their stead, no legal wage having been established for the latter.* Due to this situation, the enforcement of the law has been a very delicate problem and one requiring some tact, *as an arbitrary stand would simply result in the replacement of deserving women workers by the opposite sex.*"

Mrs. Smith also quotes a letter, dated March, 1933, from a woman restaurant worker in North Dakota to Alma Lutz, an officer of the National Woman's Party. The letter states:

"In reply to your letter of March 16, 1933, I wish to state that conditions for women workers in Mandan and Bismarck are similar to those found elsewhere as evidenced in your letter. It is true that men and boys are replacing women and girls in certain industries because of the regulations applying to women workers. This is especially true of work in the dining rooms and kitchens of hotels and

cafes. Lately one cafe in Bismarck replaced all of its women workers with men. In other restaurants many boys are employed. A few days ago my employer remarked that they had been seriously considering replacing their waitresses by waiters. We have only men working in the kitchen now. Where women are still employed, in the better cafes, the minimum wage has tended to become the maximum. In certain smaller cafes, proprietors have somehow managed to evade the regulations applying to women workers and pay any amount. . . ."

Turning to the State of Oregon, where a minimum wage law is also in operation at the present time, Mrs. Smith produces the testimony of the Fifteenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor and the State Welfare Commission of the State of Oregon, 1931-1932. This report says:

"At a meeting of the State Welfare Commission some months later, after the canneries had started to operate, a delegation of working women appeared before the commission and petitioned them to make a reduction in the minimum wage for women employees in canneries, *contending that they were being discriminated against by the canneries, as boys and men could be hired for less than 27½*

cents an hour. Many of these petitioners had dependents and they insisted that it was necessary that they be employed. They suggested that the minimum wage be reduced from 27½ cents per hour to 22½ cents an hour for the season of 1932. They felt that if this was done they could compete with men and could secure employment."

Taking up the Massachusetts minimum wage law for women, Mrs. Smith calls attention to the famous Harvard scrub-women case as another illustration of the unfortunate results of minimum wage legislation when it applies only to women. She points out that Harvard University dismissed women employees and put men in their places when the Massachusetts

Minimum Wage Commission sent an ultimatum to the University on December 18, 1929, threatening that if on December 26 any of the scrubwomen were still employed in the library at less than a 37-cent rate the Commission would exercise its right to publish a notice to the effect that the University was not complying with the Commission's decree. Mrs. Smith quotes, in this connection, a letter to Rev. William H. Duvall of Cambridge from President Lowell of Harvard, in which President Lowell said:

"I find that the minimum wage board has been complaining of our employing women for these purposes at less than 37 cents an hour and hence the University

has felt constrained to replace them with men."

Mrs. Smith concludes with the following statement:

"These are a few instances of many which we could produce showing that the minimum wage legislation for women but not for their male competitors frequently brings about the replacing of women by men in the occupations affected by the minimum wage law. It means, in the long run, driving women out of paid employment and putting men in their places. It means putting still another handicap upon the woman worker who tries to compete with a man in earning a living. For this reason we of the National Woman's Party are absolutely and unqualifiedly against all minimum wage legislation which does not apply to both sexes alike."

Mrs. Blatch Addresses Maryland Convention

LET me tell you a story illustrating how quickly history falls into the background, and the thing one fought and bled for and wins becomes a matter of course to a succeeding generation. My granddaughter, Rhoda Barney, aged 12, was set upon one day by her brother John, of 10 years, and some boy friends. The gadflies buzzed "that there was a time when women couldn't vote." To her parries that it wasn't true, single attack grew to a massed chorus, "women couldn't vote." They reduced her to tears. She dashed off, burst into her mother's room asking, "Is it true that there was a time when women couldn't vote?"

How quickly a thing great, unusual, becomes a common place!

Not more fixed was the mistaken history of votes for women in Rhoda's mind, than the notion that the work of the world, especially if paid, belongs to men, that they had it all, and that we women snatched it from them. Why the boot is on the other leg! All the home handicrafts, all the carding, spinning, weaving were in the hands of women. Not a man had a look in. Then a capitalist decided the women didn't work hard enough when left to themselves, and back in the early seventeenth hundreds, gathered the women with their hand spinning-wheels and looms into sheds to work under an overseer. When steam-power was added the work grew easy enough to be attractive to men. They started the grabbing. If there is any stealing in these days we are only taking back what was filched from us.

All we ask is a fair field and no favor, especially no so-called protective legislation.

Odd things in this line have provoked thought in the last weeks. I may be arrested for lèse majesté, but I shall venture to mention that when the stringent 48-hour law passed in the State of New York our busy President immediately urged the governors of the 13 remaining

Harriot Stanton Blatch was the principal speaker at the Fifteenth Annual Convention of the Maryland Branch of the National Woman's Party, held on May 2 in Baltimore, Maryland. Excerpts from Mrs. Blatch's address, delivered before the convention dinner, appear herewith. Emilie A. Doetsch will report the convention in next week's issue of *Equal Rights*.

industrial States to follow suit and limit women and minors to a 48-hour week.

Now please hold fast to that fact—women and young persons, a 48-hour working week. (I am only bringing out the logic of our rulers.) The President, as soon as he had caught his breath, urged on Congress the passage of a law fixing a 30-hour week for men and women producing things destined for interstate commerce. Is this legislation half-baked or sound and workable? The State law allows women and young persons to work 48 hours a week, but if women produce things which cross State borders then they with their men folk are to be governed by a 30-hour Federal law. There is not a nation in the western world permitting its manufacturers to work children 18 hours a week longer than adults.

The situation will certainly be chaos. We all know the many proverbs ringing the changes on the more haste the less speed. We had better act on the wisdom of the proverbs.

When I think of the future well-being of the race, my mind emphasises above all else the surroundings of the child. The child, the adolescent, the growing human being ought to be out of the factory and workshop. Civilization pays the price tomorrow if it fails to protect the youth of today. To leave the young in a life of monotonous, repetitive processes, to leave them in a world of noise and dust, and actually to hang on their necks the same requirements of hours and conditions as for adult women, fills me with contempt

so great for our rulers that no list of adjectives in the dictionary could describe my feelings.

Having touched on the case of children, let me say a word or two about the woman in the case. What a position such laws place women in, adult women linked in intelligence and working power with the immature of the race! I resent the implications. Women in the process of time do grow up. They are sometimes poor sticks—yes, and men are often poor sticks too. And another thing is even more certain—viz., if both do not care to stand on their own feet and refuse to hide behind the skirts and shorts of boys and girls they will not only remain poor sticks but contemptable ones to boot.

This occasion is, I understand, under the auspices of a society of business and professional women. By now you are ready to guillotine me for dwelling so much on the industrial worker. I am making up for your lost time. The enemy is as hot at your heels as at the heels of the industrial worker. The pursued must visualize themselves as one big democratic group. Business and professional women have had some hard knocks recently—the teachers their never finished battle for equal pay, the business woman in her battle for the right to marry and to work. Organize, you must and have your look-outs at strategic points or you will soon be as cramped and cribbed as your sisters who earn wages and not salaries. Bear in mind the same economic laws, the same sex jealousies are working in your lives as in those of the lowliest wage-earning woman.

Let me point out two matters of great import to you. There is a fever of economy. Civil servants are being turned off. Of course the only sound reasons for curtailment are: 1. That the particular department has been manned, over-manned, to the bursting point, beyond all need. There should be beheadings at sundown.

2. Those civil servants who are inefficient, and are found with their feet on their desks, should go to the executioner.

But I do not see the logic of when a department having suffered over much from nepotism or the payment of political debts, is to be reduced in economy's name, the pruning should begin with married persons. Why is it economic wisdom for the Government to keep on a father and his son, or two sisters, and unwisdom to retain on the payroll a husband and wife both of whom are valuable workers worthy of their hire?

Let me mention one aspect of this which I have not seen touched upon. 'Tis a reaction as sure to come as dark follows day, it will come because the economic nerve is one of the most sensitive in our make up. If a course of action is to the

human being's economic advantage he will take it though at great personal inconvenience, at great risk. I have had some opportunities to get at the thoughts of civil servants, both men and women, and there's not the slightest doubt in my mind that if the administration continues in its silly venture of using marriage as a barrier in the path of honest employment, marriage will be swept aside, illicit relations substituted. I am no prude, but history proves that those species among animals, those civilizations among men which develop sex relations so that the young are born, nurtured under the care of two co-operating parents, that those animal species and those human civilizations hold their own in the battle of life while societies based on bizarre sex relations wither and die.

To sum up the case: The administration's determination to use marriage as a pawn in an economy game is against public policy. The administration's advocacy of forcing children to work as long hours as women is a cruelty to the young of today.

The administration's advocacy of limiting adult women to the hours and minimum wage of children is an insult to American womanhood. The administration's stand that women must be placed in one economic category and men in another, is to discredit women, feed the superiority complex of men so overfed since the days of the Garden of Eden, and render the efforts of women for self-support and for advancement in their trades and professions staggeringly difficult.

Why We Campaign for Equal Nationality

By Laura M. Berrien

Chairman of Committee on International Relations of the National Association of Women Lawyers

THE National Association of Women Lawyers, in company with many other women's organizations, is urging the passage by Congress of a bill to amend the nationality law of the United States so as to remove all distinctions based on sex from that law. This bill, known as H. R. 3673, was introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Dickstein of New York, chairman of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, and in the Senate by Senator Copeland of New York, member of the Committee on Immigration. The bill was introduced originally at the instance of the National Woman's Party. Eight other national associations of women have appeared at hearings or sent letters to the Immigration Committee in its support. These organizations, in addition to the National Association of Women Lawyers, are the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Southern Woman's National Democratic Organization, the National Zonta Clubs, the National Association of Women Physicians.

The effect of the enactment of this proposed measure would be to establish complete equality between men and women in nationality. The first step toward equality in nationality was the Cable Act in 1922. At the time of the passage of the Cable Act an American woman upon marriage to an alien ceased to be an American citizen in all cases. Under the terms of the Cable Act a woman upon marriage to an alien remained an American citizen as a general rule. She lost her United States citizenship, however, if the alien whom she married was ineligible to United States citizenship, and she was presumed to have lost it if she resided in

her husband's country two years or in any other foreign country five years, the presumption for all practical purposes being equivalent to actual loss.

Two amendments to the Cable Act—one in 1930 and another in 1931—gave women a still greater measure of equality. The act of June 3, 1930, provided that a woman should no longer lose United States citizenship by reason of residence outside the United States for two years in her husband's country or for five years in any foreign country. The act of March 3, 1931, provided that a woman who married an alien ineligible to United States citizenship should no longer lose United States citizenship.

It has been more than ten and a half years since the Cable Act was passed. During that time women have pleaded the cause of equality in nationality before congresses that have come and gone. The net result of their labors is the amendment of 1930 and the amendment of 1931, referred to above.

The most important sections in the bill now before Congress are sections 1 and 2. Section 1 provides that an American woman shall transmit American citizenship to her children under the same conditions that an American man does. Section 2 provides that the American naturalization of a mother shall carry with it the naturalization of her minor children on the same terms that American naturalization of a father does. These two provisions would establish equality between mothers and fathers in reference to the nationality of their children.

Section 3 and 4 are designed to remove

two minor inequalities in the law. Section 3 would correct the present inequality as to the right to renounce citizenship upon marriage, by extending to men the right now given to women to renounce United States citizenship, if they wish to do so, upon marriage to an alien. Section 4 provides that the residence and other requirements for acquiring American citizenship through naturalization shall be the same for foreign men who marry American citizens as they now are for foreign women who marry Americans, thus making the law the same for men and women.

Section 5 would repeal three nationality laws which are now obsolete or unnecessary. One of these deals with the naturalization claims of the foreign wife of a foreign man who becomes insane after commencing proceedings for his own naturalization and one deals with the naturalization claims of the foreign widow of a foreign man who dies after commencing such proceedings. As foreign women are no longer naturalized through the naturalization of the husband, these two laws are now obsolete. The third law which it is proposed to repeal deals with a case involving hardship to a particular individual. As this case has now been taken care of there is no reason for keeping this measure on the statute books.

In addition, the bill provides, through the proposed Millard amendment, for the repatriation of all American women who have lost American citizenship by marriage, upon the mere proof of the previous possession of American citizenship. The Cable Act and its amendments provided for the repatriation of certain groups of American women, but these acts did not cover all cases. The proposed law would take care of those cases not covered by the Cable Act and its amendments.

That women should have had to strug-

gle so hard for the small gains already made in the field of nationality and still have to press for passage of the bill now in Congress seems incredible. We, of the National Association of Women Lawyers, insist that the inequalities based on sex in the nationality law should be removed at once. We demand that women should not be required to spend their time, money and strength any further to secure the passage of so simple and just a measure.

In conclusion, we wish to emphasize three compelling reasons why the Equal Nationality bill should be adopted at once:

1. The present inequalities in the nationality laws of the United States are unjust, unfair and humiliating to American women. Nationality is the relation one bears to one's country. Innumerable practical questions are involved, among them the protection of life, liberty and property. Idealism and patriotism are also involved. The relationship of the

government to its women citizens must be as close, as sure, as deep, as unchanging, as in the case of its men citizens.

2. The Inter-American Commission of Women has been invited to go to the Seventh Pan-American Conference at Montevideo, Uruguay, in December, 1933, to make recommendations concerning the status of women, as it was commissioned to do by the last Pan-American conference. The question of nationality is on the agenda of the Pan-American conference and the Inter-American Commission of Women is preparing to recommend to the Conference an Equal Rights Nationality Treaty for the Western Hemisphere. It is vitally important that this recommendation should be adopted by the conference. As the governing board of the American Institute of International Law, which is the official legal advisory body to the conference, has recommended such a treaty and as four Latin-American countries — Argentine, Chile, Paraguay and

Uruguay—already have full equality in nationality there seems reason to hope for success at Montevideo. The help of the United States delegation will be urgently needed, however, and the United States delegation will be hindered in advocating an Equal Nationality Treaty as long as the United States law on nationality discriminates against women.

3. The United States Government voted against the convention on nationality adopted at the World Conference on the Codification of International Law, at The Hague in 1930, and gave as a reason the fact that the provisions of that convention were not equal as between men and women. Twice the United States has restated that position in letters sent to the League of Nations. Failure by the United States Government to correct inequalities in its own national law, in the light of its position as stated above, is unfair to itself, to its women and to the nations with which it deals.

Press Comment

Rally Under Equal Rights Banner

Christian Science Monitor,
April 27, 1933.
By George
Howland Cox.

AT the Seventh Pan-American Conference in Montevideo, Uruguay, in December, the Latin-American nations will be asked

to outlaw all discriminations against the women of the Southern republics. Complete equality between men and women will be sought.

Thus far Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina have, in a measure, granted this request. In other words, they have put an edd to:

1. Conflicts which existed where the wife was compelled to take the nationality of her husband or to retain her own nationality upon marriage.

2. Conflicts which existed when the nationality of a child was a stake and where citizenship depended upon the country where the child was born, and was sometimes controlled by a man marrying a foreign woman and preserving his own nationality for the offspring, or where a woman, marrying a foreigner, retained her own citizenship and gave it to her child.

However, these concessions, valuable as they are, are not sufficient, for since April 4, 1928, efforts to bring about Equal Rights between women and men have been in force. On that date was established the Inter-American Commission of Women, established by the governing board of the Pan-American Union, Washington, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the Sixth Pan-American Conference in Havana during 1928.

Proof that this movement was widely favored was the attention given it by the press, ambassadors, ministers, charge

d'affaires, feminists, and others interested in Latin-American suffragism. Enthusiastic approval, reaching from India to Greece, and from Canada to Argentina, included commendations of editors, men and women of letters, and internationally-known jurists.

At first the Inter-American Commission of Women, believing that Equal Rights was a subject too reactionary to interest the governments of Latin America, turned its attention primarily to women's nationality rights. Time passed while data of various sorts were gathered together, and then in 1930 Miss Doris Stevens, chairman of the commission, went to Europe to obtain what information women of the Continent had found covering this subject.

Later, in the same year, Miss Stevens and Miss Fanny Bunand-Sevastos, executive secretary of the commission, attended the session of the Conference of the Codification of International Law, held under the auspices of the League of Nations at The Hague. To this session came delegates from the National Woman's Party of the United States, the Six Point Group of Great Britain, the International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, and the World Federation of University Women.

Meanwhile, in Washington, Miss Alice Paul, chairman of the nationality committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women, campaigned to obtain the American Government's promise to instruct its delegates to the Codification Conference to reject any pact based upon inequality of national rights. President Hoover was asked to lend his influence. He did so, and although on April 30, 1930, the conference voted down the women's plea, their efforts were not entirely fruit-

less, for the American delegation refused to sign the treaty.

The vote was a severe disappointment to American women keenly anxious to start the women of Latin America along the road leading to privileges enjoyed by southern men. However, the cause was not lost, for, in order to make the treaty binding, it had to be ratified by all the nations of the South. This the American women undertook to prevent upon their return to America. And in this effort they were supported by Senor Orestes Ferrara, now Cuban Secretary of State.

Senor Ferrara introduced a resolution into the League of Nations meeting which declared that whereas at the Codification Conference the adoption of the nationality pact had not been unanimously turned down, and since no State had ratified the vote, the League of Nations Assembly should request the Codification Commission to again take up the issue. The resolution was adopted.

Again months passed, and then once more the question on nationality rights was brought up, this time before the American Institute of International Law holding its Fifth International Conference in Washington, October, 1931. Unexpectedly the dignity of women was dramatically recognized. Upon the unanimous vote of the institute Miss Stevens was recommended for membership. Elected, shortly afterward, she became the first woman member of that juridical body limiting membership to five international publicists from each of the 21 American nations.

The impression that the women's cause had made upon the institute was not shown solely by the election of Miss Stevens. Its approval of their efforts was

further manifested through a resolution recommending to the Pan-American Conference of 1933 that the republics of Latin America should approve a treaty whereby men and women shared all rights equally.

And to make certain that it would not lose sight of women's activities the institute appointed a subcommittee of its members to consult with the International Commission of Women on all matter affecting the status of women, to the end that proposals offered for action should represent the views of both men and women in the American nations.

Finally, that further representation of women's endeavors should be effected, the institute named Miss Stevens a member of the committee to attend the Seventh Pan-American Conference at Montevideo, at which conference the institute will act as legal adviser. To this committee it added a representative from Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Peru, and Mr. James Brown Scott of the United States.

When 1932 came along the energetic women workers again carried their pro-

gram to the League Assembly at The Hague. Their groups consisted of representatives from the International Council of Women, the Inter-American Commission of Women, the Equal Rights International, the World Union of Women for Peace and Concord, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and the All-Asian Conference of Women.

Their reception by the League of Nations was far different from the treatment accorded in 1930. Considerably more interest was shown, and many interesting debates and discussions brought out the fact that women's viewpoints on the question of Equal Rights must receive serious consideration.

To prove this the Assembly complimented the women on the work they had done through their committee and hoped that that committee would continue. It likewise recommended to the governments of Latin America that they bring legislation on nationality into harmony with the wishes of women's organizations.

Then, for some reason of their own, Assembly members called upon Latin American governments to ratify the 1930 treaty that failed to provide Equal Rights between men and women.

Today, women's organizations interested in providing their sisters of the republics in the Caribbean, Central and South American areas, with rights that should have been theirs years ago, are preparing data to be placed before the Montevideo Conference. It is understood that each government proposes to send a representative qualified to ratify or reject any plan offered for consideration by the women.

Reactions, thus far, from organized groups of women in Latin America have been favorable to the movement for Equal Rights. But, for the most part, it is stated, such groups have not been particularly influential, and consequently, discussions have been carried on with individuals. The three nations most actively supporting the women's movement are Chile, Cuba and Colombia.

News from the Field

Julia Jennings, Feminist

By ELSIE HILL

JULIA S. JENNINGS of Richmond, Virginia, legislative chairman of the Virginia Branch of the National Woman's Party, died in Washington on April 4. Realizing through her own work in the suffrage movement the cost of the prolonged battle, she deeply appreciated the courageous leadership which Mrs. Belmont, the president of the National Woman's Party, brought to it, and although not strong at the time, Miss Jennings determined to go to New York to attend the memorial services for Mrs. Belmont. A fall on the ice in New York on the day of Mrs. Belmont's funeral resulted in a heart condition from which she did not recover.

Miss Jennings was one of the staunch little group of Virginia women who in 1913 rallied around Mrs. Sophie Meredith of Richmond when she launched the Congressional Union campaign for the Susan B. Anthony Amendment. After the national suffrage amendment was won in 1920 Miss Jennings came to Washington, entered the Government service and graduated in law at the National University Law School. She was employed in the Department of Commerce at the time of her death.

An ardent member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Julia Jennings' work for the enfranchisement of women arose from the deepest sense of patriotism. In it she lived out her family traditions of service to her native State and country. She met with a brave heart and willing spirit the ob-

scure, tedious tasks as well as the heroic big moves in the eight years of the militant suffrage campaign. Faithful, dependable and undaunted she was ready to go forward with the unpopularity of every advance step in the national campaign.

Comrades in the Virginia Branch of the National Woman's Party were present at the service in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond. The national headquarters sent a tribute in the form of flowers in the colors of the Woman's Party, and Alice Paul and other national officers sent personal messages and tributes of appreciation of Miss Jennings' many years of able and devoted service to the woman movement. Knowing her great devotion to the Woman's Party, Miss Jennings' sisters placed at the head of her grave the purple, white and gold banner she had treasured through the years with the basket of purple iris, yellow jonquils and white stock sent from the National Woman's Party.

Law Protects Married Teachers

A CITIZENS' COMMITTEE has recently been formed in Baltimore City to advise with the School Commissioners regarding curtailment of the expenses of public school education.

That Equal Rights legislation is of value in protecting the economic status of women is indicated by the following excerpt from a letter sent out to the members of the Citizens' Committee by Mr. Raymond S. Williams, chairman of the committee, pursuant to the suggestion that it would be a great "economy" to dismiss the married women teachers:

"Since there has been considerable discussion about the employment of married women, it may be stated that a law passed by the Maryland State Legislature in 1924 covers this matter. The law is as follows:

"It shall be unlawful for the State Superintendent of Schools or any of his assistants, and for the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City, or for any superintendent or assistant employed by said commissioners, and for any superintendent or assistant employed by said commissioners, and for any superintendent or commissioner of public education in any of the counties or municipal corporations of the State of Maryland, and for any assistants employed by them or either of them, to make any distinction or discrimination in favor of or against any teacher who may be employed in any of the public schools of this State, or of the City of Baltimore, or of the various counties or municipal corporations of this State, on account of sex, it being the intent and purpose of this act that the provisions thereof shall apply with reference to the appointment, assignment, compensation, promotion, transfer, dismissal and all other matters pertaining to the employment of teachers in the public schools of the State of Maryland, the City of Baltimore and the various counties and municipal corporations of the State of Maryland."

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